



March 21, 2014

To: Executive Board

Subject: **Front Facing Flip-Up Seats**

Recommendation

Receive and file the proposed forward-facing flip-up seat retrofit schedule.

Analysis

At the January 31, 2014 Executive Board Meeting, the Board was made aware of correspondence from NABI Bus, LLC (NABI) notifying Foothill Transit of a safety issue related to front-facing flip-up seats without barriers. In response, the Board directed staff to disable the front-facing flip-up seats and install barriers on all Foothill Transit buses.

Decals to be placed on the seats informing customers of the modification were immediately ordered and have been delivered. Disabling and locking of the front-facing flip-up seats has begun and is slated for completion sometime by March 21, 2014. The decals were also attached in those locations on affected coaches.

In light of the issue outlined in the NABI correspondence, NABI proposed to retrofit the 64 recently purchased buses at no cost to Foothill Transit. The retrofit on each of these buses will involve removing the two street side flip-up seats, installation of a barrier, and the addition of one aisle-facing seat. Because the retrofit requires welding work, NABI will transport two buses per day to and from the appropriate Foothill Transit operations and maintenance facilities to the NABI/New Flyer facility in Ontario, CA. Two technicians will be assigned to work on a two-bus rotation per day. Retrofit parts are scheduled to arrive in California in late April 2014 and the retrofit on Foothill Transit coaches will begin by April 28. The retrofit process on these coaches is slated for completion in June 2014.

Retrofitting of the seats on the series 1700, 1800, and 1900 coaches will take place in conjunction with the livery update on those coaches beginning mid March 2014. Retrofitting of the seats on the remaining series 1400, 1500, and 1600 series buses is expected to be completed by July 2014.



Budget Impact

There is no budget impact associated with retrofitting of the 64 coaches recently procured from NABI. The cost to retrofit the seating on the remaining fleet of 171 coaches is estimated at \$1,500 per coach for a total of \$256,500. Funds are available for this in the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Roland M. Cordero, written in a cursive style.

Roland M. Cordero
Director of Maintenance

A blue ink signature of Doran J. Barnes, written in a cursive style.

Doran J. Barnes
Executive Director